

Discovery

We encourage and support the exploration of new ideas, fostering a love of discovery through resources, programs, and services.

Respect

We value the dignity, potential, and contributions of every individual, treating all staff, patrons, and partners alike—with fairness, kindness, and respect, recognizing that every role adds meaningful value to our shared mission.

Creativity

We encourage imagination and innovation through programs that inspire artistic expression, original thinking, and passion building.

Diversity

We embrace the unique differences of every person and recognize the strength it brings to our collective experience.

Collaboration

We believe in the power of collaboration and combining our community's collective knowledge in new and innovative ways.

Curiosity

We nurture the inquisitive spirit by providing opportunities for individuals to ask questions, seek knowledge, and explore ideas.

Learning

We foster an environment where our community members can expand their knowledge, enrich their perspectives, refine their skills, and acquire new abilities.

Equity

We provide fair, impartial, and just access to our resources, experiences, and services.

Integrity

We act with honesty, transparency, and accountability in all that we do, upholding the trust placed in us by the community.

Communication

We commit to actively listening to our community and providing open, clear, and respectful dialogue to build greater understanding by all.

A Strategic Plan For West Florida Public Libraries 2024 - 2027

Vision: Be the heart of our diverse community, where everyone is welcome to learn, discover, create, and connect.

Mission: Engage all community members in meaningful exploration, learning, and fun by providing equitable access to a wide range of resources, programs, equipment, and services.

Kenneth “Blaine” Wall, Chair
John Bullock, Vice Chair
Liza Campbell, Member
Joyce Hopson, Member
Lori NeSmith, Member

Goals *and* Objectives

Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning

- Create learning opportunities with strategic partners to maximize Library and community resources
- Develop programs to engage and connect residents across cultures and ages
- Partner with volunteers, local groups, and businesses, to increase awareness of library resources and activities, and create potential programs
- Maximize, streamline, and invest in systems, processes, and technologies to provide each user a great library experience

Create Young Readers: Early Literacy

- Maintain an age-appropriate pre-literacy collection for children from birth to 5 years old
- Provide specialized computer stations and software geared toward young children
- Increase awareness of parent-teacher collections
- Partner with community organizations for early literacy initiatives
- Highlight early literacy resources to schools, daycare centers, and early literacy agencies
- Promote early literacy resources and programs in-house, Online, and through media outlets

Stimulate Imagination: Reading, Viewing, and Listening for Pleasure

- Build diverse collections of materials in a variety of formats
- Provide exposure to new subjects through programming with hands-on activities linked to library resources
- Conduct or partner to provide book discussion groups

Understand How to Find, Evaluate, and Use Information: Information Fluency

- Provide reliable, equitable access to public computers, software, and high-speed Internet connections and technologies
- Assist the people of Escambia County in developing the skills to find, evaluate, and use information
- Encourage discovery and promote information literacy

Be an Informed Citizen: Local, National, and World Affairs

- Be a community information hub providing citizens the information and access needed to make informed decisions
- Promote community engagement and collaboration through displays, guides, and postings to the library website and social media

Discover Your Roots: Genealogy and Local History

- Expand genealogical and local history collections
- Continue programming to capitalize on Escambia County's unique history and culture
- Encourage living connections between past and present